

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Yuji HORIBA et al. Conf.

Application No. **NEW NATIONAL PHASE** Group

Filed July 31, 2006 Examiner

FIGURE READING APPARATUS, METHOD AND PROGRAM

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 31, 2006

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.

An **Appendix** is attached following the signature page of this paper.